

SIP A Bulletin

For Circulation to Members only

VOL. 14 NO.2

MARCH - APRIL ' 93

BIMONTHLY

SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1956) (AFFILIATED TO THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF INDIA)

Editorial

Good news for young Stamp Collectors in Schools and Colleges upto the age of 21 years. Enrol yourself as Members of CHAPTER FOR PROMOTION OF YOUTH PHI-LATELY, affliated to PCI by applying with M.O. for Rs.5/- to the Chairman, CPYP, 190, Sixth main, Defence Colony, Indira Nagar, BANGALORE 560 038 stating your collecting interests with the following particulars:-

Please ENROL me as a member (affiliated) of the CHAPTER for Promotion of Youth Philately for the period (June / May 1994 giving date of Birth. Also state your collecting

Country collection (Name of the country / countries) Thematics (mention the Theme or Themes);

Postal Stationery (Mention the Country and period) Other philatelic collecting interests (such as Postal History, Maximaphily, First Day Covers etc.)

Name (Miss / Master):

Mailing Address:

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Please have the signature of Teacher or Guardian on the application letter.

The Good News is the release issue "MAYUR" by the Col. L.G. Shenoi chairmen with the blessing message of Mr. D.N. Jatia, F.I.P. President. This issue is sponsored by the oldest Society - Philatelic Society of India, Bombay. The issue has also been issued for April / June 1993 with the sponsorship of Mr. Dhananjay Desai, Patron of Gujarat Philatelic Association, Amedabad. Our SIPA Life Member and also a Life Member of Philatelic Congress of India and businessman of Madras Shri Ajith Chordia has come forward to sponsor one issue of 'MAYUR'.

I must be failing in my duty if I don't make mention that SOUTH INDIA PHILATELISTS' ASSOCIAITON, MADRAS was in the forefront in the promotion of philately for the youngsters by conducting WORKSHOPS; glving Philatelic material at concessional prices and conducting Exhibitions thereby focusing the attention of the young to the educational aspect of Philately. Even now our two senior members, Shri NEMICHAND CHOPRA from GANGASHAR, Bikaner and Mr. P.S. Sheshadri, a small scale industrialist are keeping the flag flying by conducting classes in various schools in and around

Madras and also at BIKANER. It was our vetaran Shri K.C. VEERARAGHAVAN who after his retirement put in his heart and soul for the promotion of Philately amongsts the Juniors by conducting Workships in hearly 30 schools earlier. I am glad to note that recently for the past two years CHATTISGARH PHILATELIC SOCIETY has started recruiting Juniors from DURG and BHILAI, conducted two junior exhibitions exclusively for juniors, It augurs well for the promotion of Philatley amongst the juniors and other societies and members should try to enlist juniors, give them foreign stamps, philatelic accessories at cost price. Let me appeal to the seniors who can afford to donate stamps. (foreign countries Mint / used), old stamp journals; Album pages, tweezers, stock books to the various philatelic associations for being passed on to the juniors in the promotion of philately.

Mrs. P. Thomas, Member SIPA and a school teacher has been conducting classes for students in her school to nearly 100 pupils, by her workshops, display of educational themes thereby creating an awarness of education in philately.

Tit-Bits

Shri Dhirubhai Mehta, well known philatelist writes from USA to inform that Canada wll release the final set of stamps in its folklore series on September 7 '93. The following countrieshave been admitted to the Universal Postal Union.(UPU)

- 1. Lativia (June 17 1992),
- 2. Croatia (July 20 1992).
- 3. Khazakhistan (Aug 27 1992),
- 4. Slovenia (Aug 27 1992),
- 5. Arminia (Sept 14 1992),
- 6. Moldova (Nov. 16 1992)

SIPA MEETINGS

SECOND SUNDAY of every month - Regular meeting at the Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road Post Office, Madras - 600 002. (10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.) FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAY of every month - Auction meeting at our Library Hall at 6, Nannian Street, Madras -3 (Timing 10.45 a.m. to 1 p.m.) SIPA Library Open Tuesday & Sunday, 6, Nannian Street,

Madras - 3. 7p.m. to 8.p.m.

ABOUT OURSELVES

Our Second Sunday Monthly Meetings held at Philatelic Bureau, Anna Road, HPO, Madras had very good attendance averaging between 25 to 35 members. Our President informed the members about the latest news, views and some of his latest additions to his ship Collection of Stamps/coins. Our senior members present kept the house engrossed with their new finds and were deeply distressed at the latest set back in Philately due to the issuance of high value Commemorative stamps except the personality series. Many thought provoking talks were given with display on various subjects and themes. Our Past President and present Hony. Editor, SIPA Bulletin spoke about the latest GREVs and SERVs, of the various Philatelic disciplines besides giving the latest trends both in India and abroad. Mr. N. Narayanan, silent shy Life Member distributed to the members present the latest stamp new issues from NEW ZEALAND and SWITZERLAND at every meeting. We thank him.

Our Association conducted a THEMATIC WORKSHOP in January, 1993 at Madras Museum (Childrens Section) Madras - 8. This was conducted by the accredited Philatelist Mr.Rameshwardas Binani, Convenor, Thematic Chapter of PCI and a delegate of THEMATIC COMMISSION of F.I.P Nearly 40 members participated. His main aim was to handle personally each and every problem faced by the Thematic Collectors of SIPA and the following points in particular:

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(2) Preparation of PLAN PAGE

(3) Selection of Philatelic Materials.

He did this in his own style with less talk and more display material. Nearly 5/6 SIPA Members who had brought their Thematic Collections got their doubts cleared and were really astonished to know that there is so much to learn. Our Assocation is thankful to Mr. Rameshwardas Binani, Life Member, of SIPA for taking trouble to come from Calcutta for conducting the workshop.

Before commencement of the Meeting, Our Past President informed the assembled gathering the shocking news of the brutal murder of Mr. and Mrs. Phiroze Medhora, President of Empire of India Philatelic society. Both of them were vikitims of mob frenzy in the January Bombay riots. Mr. P.M. Medhora was an erudite Philatelist, Editor, India's Stamp Journal and what is much more — one who really shed light on Indian Native States Philately. Our President, Mr. D.H. Rao associated with the sad sentiments expressed. A Minutes Silence was observed. A CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION WAS PASSED.

It is learnt that the Indian National Philatelic Exhibition 'INPEX' 93" will be organised by the Department of Posts in Calcutta from 25th to 29th December, 1993. We hope that many of our members will participate in the above exhibition in a big way. Those members who have a suitable collection for competitive participation and who are in real need of advice and guidance on the preparation of their exhibits may write to our Life Member Dr. P.S. DIXIT, Quarters No. B.7, Jeewan Bima Nagar, Bangalore 560075.

Philately in GUJARAT is again revived under the two Patrons in Mr. NIRANJAN ZAVERI, a business tycoon and Philatelist and Mr.DHANANJAY DESAI of Desai & Co. and an International reputed philatelist. A start has been made by starting the GUJARAT PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION in Feb. 93. We wish them all success in their revival efforts of Philately. May Philately

in Gujarat grow to greater heights and glory.

JAMSHEDPUR PHILATELIC SOCIETY which has been silently promoting PHILATELY for the past 20 years under the able leadership of Mr. S.S. Basan, Hony. Secretary with his able dedicated team of Philatelists in Mr. S. Hafizuddin and Dr. Kuldip singh held a Stamp Exhibition from 22nd to 24th March 1993 to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Society. Senior officials from TATA & TELCO besides prominent officials of Postal Department graced the Inauguration done by Mrs. DAISY IRANI. The Exhibition was a great success from reports reaching the Editor. Besides a two day Thematic Workshop was conducted by the Thematic Chapter Convenor. PCI, Mr. Rameshwar Das Binanri and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Bagri from Calcutta who also acted as JURIES. A nice Souvenir containing interesting articles was also released besides two special Covers ith Special Cancellations on Environment and Philaty was also brought out on the occasion. Covers cost s.5/- each and may be obtained from the Secretary.

Acknowledgements

Bulletins:

- 1. Jamshedpur Philatelic Society, Jamshedpur.
- 2. Karnataka Philatelic Society, Bangalore.
- 3. Bhilai Philatelic Society, Bhilai.
- 4. Chhattisgarh Philatelic Association, Bilaspur.
- 5. Baroda Philatelic Society, Baroda,
- 6. Kutch Hobby Circle, Bombay
- 7. Gujarat Philatelic Association, Ahmedabad.
- 8. Stamp News 1 & 2, Dept. of Posts, New Delhi.

Periodicals.

- 1. U- Phil Times, Organ of the United Philatelists, Kanpur
- 2. Top Phil, Organ of Indian Topical Association, Bhopal
- 3. Stamps & Stamps, Organ of Orissa Philatelic Association, Bhubaneswar.
- 4. The North Post Ludhiana
- 5. The Northern Philatelist, Ludhiana
- 'MAYUR' Organ of Chapter for Promotion of Youth Philately, PCI Affiliate, Bangalore 560 038
- 7. Jamshedpur 1993 Souvenir.



The Quick Mail Service (QMS) was, however, a National Campaign with special post (notably at Airports) offering the attraction of next day delivery in certain towns when the correct postal code was used. To assist all this the Post Office issued a PIN Code Directory, with PIN being short for Postal Index Number. India., we learn, was the 19th Country to introduce a Code system, although 'not for similar reasons'. A particular attraction for India was that the PIN Code (which also produced a rash of new postal stationeries) would pin-point destination regardless of the language used. In persuance of the Pin Code system India was divided into Zones (not Cirlces) - there being 8 in all. Zone 1, for example, comprised of Delhi (the Union Territrroy), Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh (Union Territory), Himachal and Jammu & Kashmir. Qazi Gund was given PIN (number) 192221, there being only six other Q post offices in 1973.

The QMS system used special cachets and postmarks, variously as slogans, instructional marking or cancellations; and a great variety there were, with local post masters apparently free to use their own









imagination. I remember advocating QMS as a worth-while study activity for our Indian members; I also recall being told that it was a rubbish subject although 'rubbish' is a remarkably apposite word'used by many 'philatelic wives' to describe everything from Scind Dawks to Bhutan 'smellies'.

However, some members did try to collect QMS information, only to discover that minor bureaucrats supposed the PIN code to be some sort of secret mark

CEB

QMS1

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and - like the Refugee Relief markings - something not freely available for the paying public. All this, of course, was nonsense but, sadly, off - putting.

QMS, intrdoucded in 1975, was to meet a transient need. Its purpose was to encourage the regular use of Postal codes, the message being conveyed in several ways. Anyone who has attempted a collection knows that a reasonable selection can be assembled for a modest outlay, and that the different markings are legion.

In my experience, the cachets were generally black or violet (although both colours are found with the same mark, for example at Egmore). It is the ealry days that provide the greatest interest. I show below the simple classifications I have adopted:-

(1) Unboxed, in single or double lines, in English or Hindi or both, as example: QMS / CALCUTTA RMS SET 2.

(2) Boxed, in one to four lines (Nagpur seen in red), as example: QMS/24 Dec. 1976/Zimahabad H.O.

(3) In Double or single lined Oval, with great size variation, and QMS' * perhaps used exclusively with Experimental Post Offices.

(4) In Double or Single lined circular format, as example for Bangalroe, which used at least five differnt handstamps, QMS I to QMS IV all in violet.

This latter circular format seems to have become quasi-standard and was used sometimes as a canceller, as example by Tirupati, although the separate cachets eventually gave way to the use of conventional cancellations with 'QMS' incorporated. Now QMS has gone, although PIN (number) are frequently included in the postmarks.

The campaign has been backed by a Slogan postmark "PIN before you Post", but at a tree when the public was being bombarded with slogans. The QMS subject, meanwhile, still awaits a proper study, which can only be a labour of love..... there is no money in QMS.

C----

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STAMP NEWS NO 3. March '93.

In March 1993, no new stamp releases are proposed, But like the calm before the storm there are going to be as many as 6 releases in April. One of the release Mountain Locomotives will be a set of 4 stamps. So there will be 9 new stamps coming out in April.

April Realase for	Date of Release	
1. No.1 Sqn. I.A.F.	01.04.93	100 p
2. 9 Parachute Field Regiment	01.04.93	100 p
3. Rahul Sankrityayan	09.04.93	100 p
4. Mountain Locomotives	16.04.93 100	, 600,
AND THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS.	800, 1	100 p.
5. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan	23.04.93 100p	
poned)	ALL SUPERIOR OF	P. D. S. S.
6. Meerut College, Meerut	25.04.93	100 p
		The second second

1. No.1 Sqn. I.A.F.

The No. 1 Squardon known as "Tigers" was raised on 1st April 1993 at Drigh Road Karachi with on wapiti Aircraftsfrom where it has grown into a major force with Mirage 2000 & MIG-21 aircrafts, The squadron had taken part in all the major air operations including 1971 Indo - Pak war for which it won 1 AVSM, 1 Vr C, 3 VMs.

2. 9. Parachute Field Regiment

The Regiment was raised on 1st April 1943 at Kumbergaon near Pune. Since then it has taken part in all operations. One of its Commanding Officers Lt. Gen.

Sir WHG pike KC, CBE. DSO rose to the rank of Vice Chief of the British Army. Another well known officer from the Regiment is the present Chief of the Army Staff. Gen. S.F. Rodrigues PVSM, VSM, ADC.

MOUNTAIN LOCOMOTIVES.

The steam locomotive was born of necessity. It was evolved at a time when new inventions were viewed with suspicion. Charles Dickens voiced the public attitude to early steam locos when he described the "inge in" as a nasty, wheein", "Creaking", gaspin, uffin bustin monster with a shiny green and gold back, like an unpleasent beetle.

In India averse to the heat of the plains, the British sought cooler climes and the result was the developing of hill - stations. Transport was a constant porblem. To mitigate these hardhips train tracks were extended to Shimla, Darjeeling, Matheran and

Ootacamund.

Kalka - Shimla Rail Line :

The Kalka - Shimla section was opened for traffic in 1903. The Gauge of this track is 762 mm and the maximum gradient 1 in 25. This section has 102 tunnels on the 96 kms. run as it ascends from 643m at Kalkat to 2042 m at Shimla. The steam locomotives used were (2 -6-2) tank type, built between 1904 and 1935 in Britain (class K-1, K-2, K-C with Walshaert valve gear) and Germany (class ZF, ZF-1 with Caprotti poppet valve.)

Matheran Railway Line:

The Matheran Railway begins its upward journey at Neral, a station 87 kms. away from Bombay V.T. The line was constructed in 1907 and the gauge is 2 ft. The maximum gradient is 1 in 20 and the line rises 720 m in a distnce of 19.36 kms. The train was hauled earlier by (0 - 6 - 0) tank type locomotive built by Orenstein and

Koppel of Berlin.

Nilgiri Hill Railway Line:

The train begins its upward jouney from Mettupalayam and takes 4 hours to cover 52 kms. to reach Ooty. This line was constructed between 1885 and 1908 and has a maximum gradient of 1 in 23. The earlier steam locomotion had a rack- and pinion system of holding them on steep gradients and came from Beyer Peacock Co.of Manachester in 1908 and later from North British Locomotive Co. of Glasgow. Later Rack and Adhesion 0 - 8 - 2 (Xf) and 0 - 8 - 2 (X) types of steam locomotives were supplied by Swiss Locomotive works between 1940 and 1952.

Darjeeling Himalayan Railways:

It starts at Newjalpaiguri and reaches Darjeeling after covering a distance of 88 kms. Its gauge is 610 mm and maximum gradient is with many loops as sharp as 18 m radius. Thus it turns 540 degrees or 1.5 completed turns at Batasia Loop. The maximum height achieved is 2258 m at ghum. The steam locomotives are called 'B' class 0-4-0 saddle and well tank type, most of them came from Britain between 1889 and 1925, and this is the only mountain railway on Indian Railways where steam locomotives are still in use.

APS COVERS

The following special covers were released by the APS during the month of March 93.

a) 68 Armoured Regiment Silver Jubilee 01 Mar.93

b) The Dogra Regiment 10th Re Union 03 Mar. 93

c) 1 Armoured Engineer Golden Jubilee of Regiment o 'SYRIA DAY" 13 Mar. 93

d) 7 Engineer Regiment Golden Jubilee of 'MARETH DAY' 23 Mar. 93

e) 103 Inf. Bn. (TA) Silver Jubilee 24 Mar. 93
POSTAL STATIONERY

1. One new ILC of pink colour priced at 75p will be released on 26.4.93. The first day cancellation will be provided at Philatilic Bureaux / Counters as usual.

2. A three flap ILC (Grey) will be available for sale from Post Office and philatelic bureaux / counters from 19.4.93 onwards.

STAMP NEWS 4 / 93

In addition to the 6 releases for April there will be one more release on 11.4.93 commemorating the 89th Inter Parliamentary Union Conference being held in Delhi.

1. RAHUL SANKRITYAYAN

Rahul Sankrityayan was born on April, 9, 1893 at Pandaha, Azamgarh. The young boy left his home at

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ng stages of his life, matrimony notwithstanding. The desire for freedom made him to adopt a life of ascetism drew him to the study of Vedandha and Hindu Scriptures. The Russian Revolution inspried him to join politics and he became an active participant in the Non-Cooperation Movement. He went to Ceylon where he embraced Budhism. His greatest claim e to fame was his unrelenting search for Budhist scriptures which took him to far away Tibet four times, as a result of which he brought back to India 21 new loads of Tibetan literature. During the year 1944 to 1947 he worked as Professor of Sanskrit and Pali in Russia. He was also awarded Padma Bushan by the Government of India.

2. 89th Inter Parliamentary Union conference

The Inter Parliamentary Union whose origin dates back to 1889 is an international organization at parliamentary level which brings together the representatives of parliaments of sovereign countries on one platform. The union shares the objectives of the united nations and supports all its efforts besides working in colse co - operation with it. The union has a semi official character and has its headquarters in Geneva. India became a member of this International body in 1949. India has the privialege of hosting the 89th International Parliamentary Coference inNew Delhi on 127t April, 1993. India hosted 57th Inter Parliamenary conference in 1969. The Department of Posts issued a commemorative stamp on that occaison also.

Coinciding with the Railway week, the Department

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of Post will be issuing a set of four stamps on mountain locomotives on 16.4.93. Over the years the Department of Posts has issued a large number of stamps on Railways & railway related themes. For the benefit of thematic collectors we are giving here the details of such stamps issued since 1947.

16.4.1964	2as Railway centenary.
30.6.1972	20 p International Union of Railways
15.5.1976	25 p WDM 2 Diesel 1963.
	50 p F 1 Metre Gauge 1995
	100 p WP Broad Gauge 1963.
	200 p GIP No. 1853.
18.12.1982	285 p Darjeeling Himalayan Railway
28.3.1987	100,150 Centenrary of South Eastern
	200, 400 p. Railway
30.5.1988	100 p 100 Years of Victoria Terminus
	Bombay
25. 4. 93 :	CENTENARY OF MEERUT COLLEGE 100P

The Meerut College was started on 15th July 1892 with a few students and fewer teaching staff in a Municipal School building. After a few days only it was shifted to its new campus. Individual donation and grants - in - aid helped it to tide over the crisis. The present campus of the College has sports, and hostel complexes with Research and Post graduate facilities in different faculities, including Humanities, Science, Commerce, Law and Education. The College was Affiliated to Meerut University in 1954 when the University was formed.

The luminaries who steered this institution through its 100 years included Dr. B.R. Chaterjee, the first Indian to be the Principal and a respected educationist Equally important was the role played by Dr. Pt Sita Ram who brought glory to his Alma Mater when he was honoured with knighthood and later appointed the country's High Commissioner at Karachi.

The First Day Cover shows the old logo with the inscription 'Animo - Et Fide' and the new logo with the Hindi inscription "Uthishthat jagrat" adopted in the year 1953 when the Meerut College celebrated its Diamond Jubilee. Slogan / Advertisements postal stationery

Mr. R. Binani, 9, R. Mullick Lane, Off. 43, Strand Road, Calcuta 700 007 is making a check list of Indian postal stationery with slogans / advertisements. He will appreciate receiving details of all such issues after 1981 from our readers. If necessary Xerox copies maybe sent whose cost will be reimbursed by Mr. Binani.

Postal Stationery

Inland Letter Card with the advertisement message of Registrar General of India, "Ensure prompt registration of births and deaths" is being released with effect from 22nd March, 1993.

Directory of Philatelists:

A Directory of Philatelists of Kerala was brought out on 16.1.93. The Directory consists of addresses and other details pertaining to 524 philatelists of Kerala. This Directory is available for sale from the Sr. Post Master, Trivandrum GPO, Sr. Postmaster, Ernakulam H.P.O. Sr. Postmaster, Calicut H.P. The Directory is priced at Rs. 10/- per copy.